

CLAIMS:

1. A stem portion for a toothbrush for delivering fluid supplied from at least one reservoir to at least one exit opening in a bristle plate with bristles, comprising:

a stem body having an interior longitudinal opening; and

a core member configured to fit within the stem body opening, wherein the stem body and/or the core member have at least one groove extending therealong, wherein said at least one groove receives fluid at one end of the stem portion and delivers fluid to the bristle plate opening.

2. The stem portion of claim 1, wherein the stem body and the core member each have two grooves along the lengths thereof, wherein one groove from the stem body and one groove from the core member form a first stem channel, and wherein the other groove from the stem portion and the other groove from the core member form a second stem channel, for delivery of fluids to the bristle plate.

3. The stem portion of claim 2, wherein the core member includes a coupling element at a distal end thereof, which includes grooved portions which communicate with the first and second channels in the stem body and which are adapted to receive fluid pathway channels from the reservoir.

4. The stem portion of claim 1, wherein the bristle plate includes fluid pathway portions which extend from the first and second channels in the stem portion to exit openings in the bristle plate, permitting fluid to move therethrough to the bristles.

5. The stem portion of claim 2, wherein the first and second channels are opposed, approximately 180° apart.

6. The stem portion of claim 2, wherein the core member includes two extending crushable ribs and the stem body includes two mating key slots, adapted to provide a fluid-tight relationship between the stem body and the core member, separating the first and second channels.

7. The stem portion of claim 2, wherein the core member includes two extending ribs and the stem body includes two mating key slots, adapted to provide a friction-fit fluid-tight relationship between the stem body and the core member, separating the first and second channels.

8. The stem portion of claim 2, wherein the core member includes two extending ribs which are welded to the stem body to provide a fluid-tight relationship between the stem body and the core member, separating the first and second channels.
9. The stem portion of claim 2, wherein the first and second channels are approximately circular.
10. The stem portion of claim 2, wherein one channel extends to one exit opening in the bristle plate and the other channel extends to another exit opening in the bristle plate.
11. A stem portion for a toothbrush for delivering fluid supplied from at least one reservoir to at least one exit opening in a bristle plate with bristles, comprising:
 - a first stem body portion; and
 - a second stem body portion adapted to be fitted with the first stem body portion in a fluid-tight relationship, wherein interior surfaces of the first and second stem body portions are configured to together define two separate channels therealong for delivery of fluid to said bristle plate opening.
12. The stem portion of claim 11, wherein one channel extends to one opening in the bristle plate and the other channel extends to a second opening in the bristle plate.